Please insert the following new claims:

All 4. A moisture-absorbent/releasable heat-generating intermediate material as claimed in claim 4, characterised in that the feather and the polyacrylate-series moisture-absorbent/releasable heat-generating fiber are blended without a binder.

15. A moisture-absorbent/releasable heat-generating heat-retaining article as claimed in claim 9, characterised in that the feather and the polyacrylate-series moisture-absorbent/releasable heat-generating fiber are blended without a binder.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments to Claims 5 and 10 and therefore adding new claims 14 and 15 be entered. These amendments are being made in order to avoid this application incurring a surcharge for the presence of one or more multiple dependent claims. No new matter has been added.

Respectfully submitted,

February 24, 2000

Date

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